

Brushy Creek Rec. Area
Trail Advisory Board Annual Meeting
Brushy Creek Area Office
April 14, 2004

A tour of area improvements and updates was held at 4:00pm. Mike Tinkham, Myron Groat, Donna Christiansen, Pat Reed, Greg Van Fosson, Kevin Szczodronski, and Chad Kelchen attended.

Meeting was called to order at 6:20 pm. First on the agenda was the approval of the previous meetings minutes. As the board members read the minutes Kevin Szczodronski gave a quick overview on the status of the parks bureau and the future plans for Brushy Creek. Kevin stated that the RTO fund (one of the parks bureau's lines of funding) had been cut. This money was going to be used for improving sewer and water systems, and upgrading old electrical systems that are in disrepair in parks. As a result, money from REAP will be diverted to repair these systems. Construction projects at Brushy, such as the beach facility, new campground developments, and cabins will be put on hold to ensure that other projects which are safety concerns are completed first.

After Kevin finished his overview, Myron Groat moved to approve the minutes, Mike Tinkham seconded. The minutes were approved.

Officer elections followed. Donna nominated Ruth Nelleson to be chairperson, Kristi Schaaf seconded. Ruth was elected to continue as chairperson.

Old Business

Ruth asked the status of the Adopt-A-Trail program. Chad responded that there are no new volunteers and that details will be posted in the kiosks to generate interest. Ruth suggested that the board adopt a section of the trail to be a leader. The group agreed and picked a date to work on the preserve trail. The main objective will be litter pick up and water bar repair. The group picked April 24, working 9am-1pm. A rain date of May 8 was set.

Donna asked Mike O'Brien about possible funding avenues for a trail or tube under D-46 near the south equestrian campground entrance. Some debate followed on the situation. A motion was made to permanently table the issue until a clear source of funding is available to complete the construction.

Chad mentioned that the parks section is developing a reservation system for campgrounds. Something will be in place within 2-3 years for people to be able to reserve campsites. The department is still in the early phases of developing a plan; it is too early to know what kind of reservation system the department will have.

Donna brought up the addition of trails to the south. She wanted to know if it was possible to start getting the paperwork cleared (archaeological studies and planning) to put in more trails along the ridge tops overlooking the Des Moines River valley to the southwest. Greg said he would start looking into it.

Next Chad gave an overview of what is coming up for the summer. He said the priorities were to complete the Non-equestrian campground, finish the non-electric sites in the south equestrian campground, perform upkeep on trails (water bars), and to keep up with an expected busy summer season.

There was no new business to discuss.

The next meeting is set for October 19. Instead of a tour, members are invited to trail ride. We will meet at 10am at the North Day use area. People who go on the ride will need to bring a lunch. The meeting will be at 6pm.

Mike Tinkham motioned to adjourn, seconded by Myron Groat. Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.